

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly enter the following amendment to the claims herein:

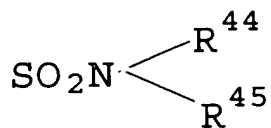
1. (Amended) A composition suitable for laser welding comprising a thermoplastic resin and a 1:2 metallic azo complex dye being transparent for the near-infrared spectrum of a laser beam applied in said laser welding having a main wavelength from 800 nm to 1200 nm.

2. (Amended) A thermoplastic resin composition for laser welding comprising

- 1) at least one thermoplastic resin; and,
- 2) a black colorant having at least one of 1:2 metallic azo complex dyes of the following formulas, said 1:2 metallic azo complex dye being transparent for the near-infrared spectrum of a laser beam applied in said laser welding having a main wavelength from 800 nm to 1200 nm:

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The formula [I]

Wherein R^{39}, R^{41} , which may be the same or different, are Cl,

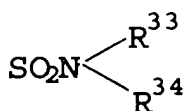


,or $\text{SO}_2R^{43}, R^{44}, R^{45}$, which may be the same or different, are independently hydrogen atom, linear or branched C1-C4alkyl, R^{43} is linear or branched C1-C4 alkyl, R^{40}, R^{42} , which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, linear or branched C1-C18 alkyl group, linear or branched C2-C18alkenyl group, sulfonamide group, carboxyl group, mesyl group, hydroxyl group, C1-C18 alkoxy group, acethylamino group, benzoylamino group, a halogen atom or $-\text{CONH}-R^{46}$, R^{46} is functional group selected from unsubstituted or substituted linear or branched C1-C18 alkyl or unsubstituted

substituted C6-C18 aryl group, L_1 and L_2 are independently O or COO,
(E)⁺ are H⁺; cation of alkali metal, ammonium ion, cations of organic amine including
aliphatic primary, secondary and tertiary amines, quaternary ammonium ion.
, K^3 is an integer, m^3 is 0, 1 or 2,
 M^1 is a kind of metals having coordination numbers of from 2 to 4;

The formula [II]

wherein R^{30} and R^{31} , which may be the same or different, are Cl,



SO_2R^{32} , or H,

R^{33} and R^{34} , which may be the same or different, are independently hydrogen atom,
linear or branched C1-C4 alkyl,

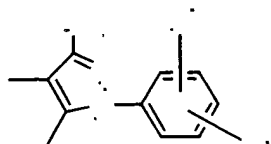
R^{32} is linear or branched C1-C4 alkyl, L_3 and L_4 are independently O or COO,

(D)⁺ is hydrogen ion, cation of alkali metals, ammonium ion, cations of organic
amine including aliphatic primary, secondary and tertiary amines, quaternary
ammonium ion,

K^2 is an integer, m^2 is 0, 1 or 2,

M^2 is metals of atomic numbers of from 2 to 4.;

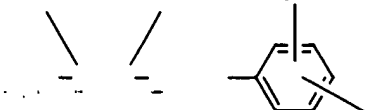
B is represented by formula



----[III]

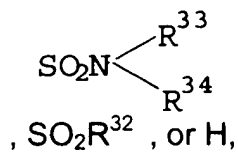
or

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----[IV]

wherein R³⁵ and R³⁷, which may be the same or different, are Cl,



R³³ and R³⁴, which may be the same or different, are independently hydrogen atom, linear or branched C1-C4 alkyl, and R³⁶ and R³⁸, which may be the same or different, are independently hydrogen atom, linear or branched C1-C18 alkyl, carboxyl, hydroxyl, C1-C18 alkoxy, amino or halogen atoms.

Kindly add the following new claims:

11. (New) The composition of claim 2 wherein, in the formula [I], M¹ is trivalent metal.
12. (New) The composition of claim 2 wherein, in the formula [II], M¹ is Zn, Sr, Cr, Al, Ti, Fe, Zr, Ni, Co, Mn, B, Si and Sn

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REMARKS

This amendment is for the purposes of meeting the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121. Applicant's amendment filed on January 28, 2003 was considered non-compliant because it failed to meet the 37 CFR 1.121 requirements.